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Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction

Note by the Secretariat concerning the responsibilities entrusted to the Secretary-General under draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.42

1. Under the terms of operative paragraphs 5 and 6 of draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.42, the General Assembly would:

(a) Note that, at the request of the States parties, a Fifth Review Conference of the Parties to the Convention will be held at Geneva from 19 November to 7 December 2001, that, following appropriate consultations, a Preparatory Committee for that Conference has been formed, open to all parties to the Convention, and that the Committee will meet at Geneva from 25 to 27 April 2001;

(b) Request the Secretary-General to continue to render the necessary assistance to the depositary Governments of the Convention and to provide such services as may be required for the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the 1994 Special Conference, including all necessary assistance to the Ad Hoc Group and the Special Conference which is to consider the report of the Ad Hoc Group, in accordance with its mandate as confirmed by the Fourth Review Conference, and to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services as may be required for the Fifth Review Conference and its preparations.

2. Should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.42, assistance from the Secretariat would be required (a) for the convening of the Fifth Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee; (b) for the depositary Governments of the Convention in the implementation of the decisions and recommendations of the Review Conferences, as well as the decisions contained in the final report of the 1994 Special Conference; and (c) for the Ad Hoc Group and the Special Conference.

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3. There is no provision in section 4, Disarmament, of the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001 to undertake the activities mentioned above. The costs related to the activities associated with the aforementioned meetings shall be met in accordance with the arrangements made by the States parties, and no additional costs shall be borne by the regular budget of the United Nations.

4. Activities related to international conventions or treaties that, under their respective legal instruments, are to be financed outside the regular budget of the United Nations may be undertaken by the Secretariat only when sufficient funding is received, in advance, from the States parties. Furthermore, in accordance with established procedures, the United Nations would levy a charge at a rate of 13 per cent of expenditure for such activities, to defray the administrative and other support costs incurred in their implementation. Such expenses would also be borne by the States parties.

5. With respect to assistance and services to be rendered to the Fifth Review Conference and its Preparatory Committee, which would meet at Geneva from 19 November to 7 December 2001 and from 25 to 27 April 2001, respectively, the related requirements are estimated as follows:

	Fifth Review Conference	*Preparatory Committee*
	(United States dollars)	
(a) Conference-servicing costs		
Meeting servicing	166 400	33 400
Pre-session documentation	53 200	11 600
In-session documentation	187 100	16 100
Post-session documentation	58 700	10 600
Summary records	193 600	-
Other conference services	10 000	2 000
Subtotal (a)	**669 000**	**73 700**
(b) Non-conference servicing costs		
Travel and daily subsistence allowance for two professional and one General Service staff from the Department for Disarmament Affairs	16 200	8 400
Three work-months of temporary assistance	18 100	-
Subtotal (b)	**34 300**	**8 400**
Total ((a) + (b))	**703 300**	**82 100**
Programme support costs (13 per cent)	91 400	10 700
Total ((a) + (b) + (c))	**794 700**	**92 800**

6. The costing provided herein is for indicative purposes only. States parties to the Convention would have to bear in full the actual costs of holding the Conference and the meetings of the Preparatory Committee.

7. Therefore, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.1/55/L.42, no additional requirements would arise under the programme budget for the biennium 2000-2001.